

NOE

The Valley Voice

SEASON'S GREETINGS

From Supe to Nuts

By Alan Bell
and Sarah Smith

If misery loves company, the biggest party should be held in District 5, where 16 hopefuls were defeated in the Nov. 8 district supervisorial race.

Clearing the top with 5,922 votes (30.5 percent of the popular vote), Harvey Milk, Castro Street camera store owner, successfully climaxed his long and involved campaign to win a local seat on the Board.

Milk, among the first constituent-elected San Francisco supervisors in decades, took District 5 by a landslide (actually, more like a cave-in), vanquishing 16 diverse opponents. Following the rapid voter tally, Milk returned triumphal to his many friends and followers, even providing his own motorcade.

The other candidates were not so expansive. Even sliced so thin, loser-pie can leave a bitter aftertaste. The VOICE in its ongoing coverage of neighborhood politics, asked several of the unsuccessful candidates about their views on the election. Although some were unavailable for comment, we did speak with most of the major candidates. Reactions varied widely although opinions were almost unanimous on some points.

Concerning election procedure, the most consistently voiced opinion was that there should be a run-off election between the two top contenders. It was also mentioned, however, that a district race of 17 candidates was an improbable occurrence.

Proper campaign spending estimates varied considerably, from a \$5,000 ceiling advocated by Eric Graham to an "each by his/her own resources" approach favored by Bob St. Clair and Terence Hallinan. Available campaign money, and the lack thereof, was cited as one of the most hindering obstacles to many of the candidates.

Graham, who spent a modest \$1,000 on his cam-

paign (\$500 on posters alone), felt that more publicity money might have significantly enhanced his chances, while St. Clair expressed the view that the more grandiose campaign spending of candidates like Rick Stokes did little to charm the voters in their direction.

St. Clair cited candidate visibility as a crucial requirement in this kind of grassroots politicking.

"I won in all precincts that I walked. In those that others walked, we were second or third. If I had had enough time, I would have walked every precinct," commented St. Clair, lamenting his late entry into the race.

Ron Green also relied heavily on a door-to-door handshake and chat campaign, but it proved less effective for him. (He placed seventh, with 3.4 percent of the vote.)

"I expected to do better than I did. Apparently, there was a minimum amount of money you needed. I was just trying to get my one piece of literature under everybody's door," he said.

Rita George discussed the difficulty a woman encounters in maintaining a financially viable campaign.

"It's much harder for a woman to raise money," she said, arguing that women candidates are still treated differently than men.

"At the second filing of campaign spending, I had raised the second highest amount of money, but my name

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Meanwhile, In Other News

Thumbs Up On Downzoning

After years of planning and map drawing, the City's Planning Commission has finally unveiled proposals that are designed to enhance the quality of life in Noe Valley and the rest of the City.

The long awaited proposals were undraped Nov. 29 before a crowd so large that the Commission was forced to

move its meeting to a larger room.

Under the plan, the 24th Street commercial area, from Chattanooga to Diamond Streets, would be downzoned. The proposal would restrict commercial establishments to the ground level, although some non-residential uses, such as medical offices and childcare facilities, would be permitted on the upper levels only after a special permit

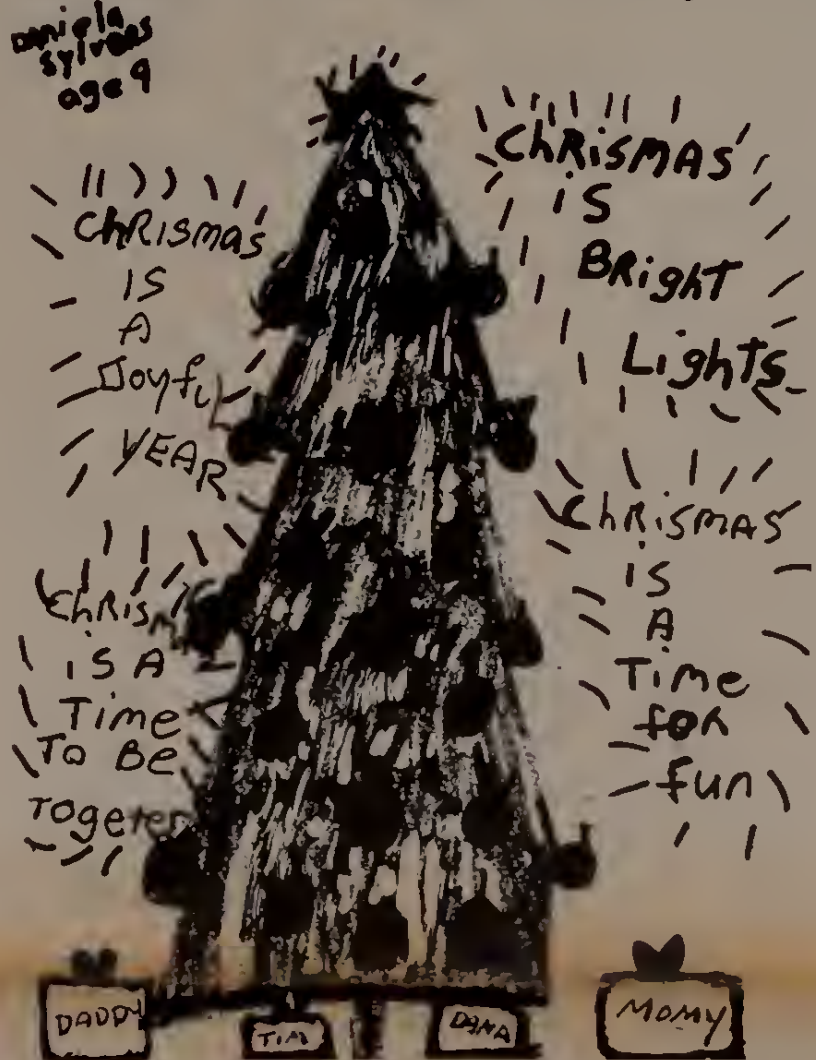
was sought from the Commission.

The proposal also would require any firm constructing a commercial facility to include a usable and accessible rear yard for upper level residents.

The proposals are not final. They still face public hearings by the Commission, which will then send its recommendations to the Board of Super-

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Joy to The Valley,



Our Tree Has Come!

Bring your ornaments, candy canes, pine cones and definitely bring your kids to help decorate Noe Valley's first community Christmas Tree Saturday, Dec. 17.

Santa Claus himself has promised to preside over the festivities, which will begin at 2 p.m. at the corner of 24th and Noe Streets.

The Douglas Fir from Jim and Ed's Rainbow Garden Nursery will adorn the vacant lot, soon to be the home of Olympic Savings and Loan, for two weeks.

Noe Valley's first Community Decorating Day is sponsored by the VOICE and coordinated through the joint efforts of the Noe Valley Merchants Association, the Business and Professional Association of Noe Valley, Friends of Noe Valley and the Noe Valley Ministry.

These groups are donating their time and resources, but money is still needed for lights, utility costs and a fence around the tree. Contribution boxes will be placed in 24th Street shops.

Community Crosstalk

Women's Conference

Firsthand Report From Houston

(Ed. Note: The National Women's Conference held in Houston Nov. 19-21 was an unprecedented gathering of women from all walks of life but with a common purpose: to "identify barriers that prevent women from participating fully and equally in all aspects of national life" and recommend to Congress ways of eradicating them. Among the goals adopted by the conference were passage of the Equal Rights Amendment, support for minority women's rights, reproductive freedom including federally funded abortions for poor women and an end to forced sterilization, and the elimination of discrimination on the basis of sexual preference.

Psylvia Gurk is a member of the Northern California International Women's Year Support Coalition, a group centered in the Bay Area. The Coalition focused its pre-conference efforts on raising money to send as many feminist, lesbian, Third World, disabled and poor women to Houston as possible.)

As some of us from the Coalition gathered at the airport to leave (there were about 80 on one flight), we all were looking at how many of us we were. With the knowledge that we were personally sent by groups of people, organizations, friends, families and co-workers, it was as if each of us was standing in front of a group of 50 or 100 people, going for them, representing their interests, dedicating the next few days of her life to this work. Then we realized that we were going to Houston to meet with 30,000 women who each had at least that many behind her, not to mention 2,200 delegates who were to represent their entire states. What a task!

There were many important resolutions passed by the conference. Women were able to see that it was essential for them to work for legislation which perhaps they had previously thought did not affect them.

There were white women working in support of women of color, able-bodied women for disabled women, non-mothers for mothers, heterosexual women for lesbians and free sexual preference, women who are financially better off for welfare recipients and other poor women, and women of all ages working for women of all ages.

Disabled women had an especially hard time of it at the conference. They had not even been considered by the International Women's Year commission, or most of the state conventions. The few disabled women who were able to go to Houston found the city virtually inaccessible. Some had to wait two days for wheelchairs that were promised to be at the airport on their arrival. The commission had made no provision for interpreters for the deaf, and when they did, the interpreter was up on the stage, which you could only see if you were in a state delegation seated up front.

Blind women were given a braille notebook telling them where things were and what to do in an emergency, instead of the program of meetings and events and National Plan of Action which everyone else got on registering.

Yes, there were special services booths and areas, but the preparations were inadequate, and disabled women felt frustrated and that the women's movement had left them out. It was not until after the resolution written by and for disabled women had passed overwhelmingly that they felt any relationship to the conference and the movement, and issues like the ERA began to mean something to them.

This seemed to be the feeling among all women who had come to Houston hoping to be validated but none too certain of the outcome. Women began to realize that if any woman is oppressed, all are oppressed, and sisterhood flowed. The women's movement is not only for white, middle and upper class women. It is for all of us.

Also going on at the same time as the delegates' voting sessions was a huge gathering of women from all over the country, right down the block at Seneca Falls South. There were hundreds of booths set up by craftspeople, businesses, states, political organizations, giving, selling and sharing what they had for us. There were skill-sharing workshops and women's cultural events. The list of performers is too long to print here, but in our high energy state, with little or no eating or sleeping, whenever we could steal a few minutes

to go there and be bathed in the warm, relaxing atmosphere of our own, growing women's culture, we went and were renewed.

As we had feared, there was a confrontation between women and some members of the Ku Klux Klan. No one was seriously injured, but a couple of women were hurt, and anything at all is too much. (One said, "I never knew you could get hit by a stranger for doing nothing.") Ideas die hard, and some women were surprised to discover that some Houston police are members of the KKK, and so you know who got the protection.

The media seems to have given a lot of time and space to the right-wing elements, assuring us they "couldn't play favorites" and "had to give equal time." Well, what about the fact that they covered an anti-ERA, anti-woman rally that was not even part of the conference, while ignoring all the non-delegate activity of the conference itself? (Also, many newspeople told me it was a big struggle just to get their stations and publications to send them to cover this and any other women's events.)

It is important to remember that the right-wing delegates, who were claiming that more progressive elements had stacked the conference, were a small minority. In fact, those very same delegates had flooded some of the state conferences just in time for the voting, so they were able to elect several state delegations unrepresentative of the population. They had just as much time and just as much chance to get as many people to Houston as anyone else. They were not discriminated against. They didn't understand that the rest of us did not come as a block; we were motivated for many different reasons, and we found quite a common ground.

Most of us who attended worked real hard, slept an average of four hours a night, ate maybe five times, and experienced sisterhood. Me, I had tears in my eyes for at least 10 hours a day.

I can't tell everything right here and now. There is much more than this that went on in Houston, and each of us had a different experience. We will all do our best to continue to let you know what happened at this herstorical event.

Psylvia Gurk
Member of the
California IWW
Support Coalition

Dear Harvey, Dear Harvey

In the eyes of its proponents, the victory of district elections heralded an era of government responsiveness and closer communication between the Board of Supervisors and the people it represents.

Now that District 5 has its own supervisor, in the person of Harvey Milk, let's not file away our interest in the burning issues and leave the struggle to him. "You've gotta make me accountable," was his advice to us, and that's what we plan to do

Starting with February issue, the VOICE will run a regular column called MILK MILK in which we print your questions and concerns and Milk's responses to them. If you think the City should provide more subsidized housing or lower Muni fares or institute a commuter tax or install huge fans atop the Trans-america Pyramid to blow the fog away (as suggested by a would-be supervisor), why dontcha let our supervisor know about it?

Send your Dear Harvey letters to MILK MILK, The Noe Valley Voice, 4166A - 24th St. , San Francisco, 94114.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD WRITERS, ARTISTS, PHOTOGRAPHERS, ETC.....

The VOICE will have no January issue. Great way to start out the new year, right? We thought so. We do, however, plan to come out with a February sheet that sparkles with renewed wit and vitality. If you're a reporter, artist, photographer or political pundit and would like to share in this rebirth, please write 4166A - 24th St. , 94114, or call 232-9868 or 648-6140. No experience necessary.

Supe to Nuts...

was left out of a Chronicle story discussing campaign expenditures in District 5," she said.

George, along with Green, attributed Milk's victory to possession of three necessities for a successful campaign: "extensive precinct operations, money and name recognition." George added, "One thing that handicapped me was that I refused to put literature on public property."

This consideration did not, however, impede Stokes or Green, who had their promotional cost-effectiveness diluted by a City ordinance demanding that political advertising be removed from City property at the candidate's expense.

"If I run again, I will have a professional organization, raise funds, do political kinds of things. I will do it downtown style and I will play to win.

"I won't be the human and compassionate person I really am," she advised.

Green and Graham both mentioned that a district-wide direct mailing might well have abetted their credibility with the electorate.

Regrettably, Stokes' views on campaign spending are absent from this report. He was on vacation at press-time. Itemized disclosures of individual campaign expenditures will be made Jan. 10.

Excepting the victor, Milk, all the candidates felt that the apathetic voter turnout for this first district election was detrimental not only to their political careers, but to the future of election by district as well.

Various theories were tendered on the lukewarm turnout. St. Clair suggested, "A great deal of people were against district elections in the beginning and just said, 'Oh, to hell with it.'" Green parried, "Everyone had to put so much energy into preserving district elections, there was not enough left to

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put into electing good candidates."

Graham said, "A 50 percent turnout in this district is really sad. I wanted the laid-back hippie vote, but the laid-back hippies stayed laid-back!"

Shelley Fernandez regretted not having run a more tooth-and-nail campaign.

Hallinan was more specific with, "My endorsement from the Democratic Party and labor got lost in the shuffle, but the killer for me was the low voter turnout. Some said the election results indicated the demise of the Democratic Party influence, but a 50 percent turnout is always death to Democratic-labor forces."

Most of the candidates thought that the unexpected Chronicle endorsement as well as that of the Bay Guardian lent tremendous advantage to the campaign of Supervisor-elect Milk.

Speaking of media coverage in general, Green said, "The Chronicle and Examiner were important. They announced who the top candidates were and they became the top candidates."

St. Clair said the media performance was "typical; however there were so many people involved, it was very difficult to cover."

Fernandez offered the harshest criticism: "Media gave no coverage to anyone, especially the new people. There were dishonest endorsements in District 5, made by small groups of people who happened to show up at a meeting."

One thing was clear. In future elections, the support of established citywide opinion-makers will be more carefully sought.

As the last of the shouting dies away in District 5, most are happy to discover that

district elections do indeed work, and grateful for the diversity of political insight they have derived from this one.

Again, the VOICE regrets the incompleteness of the roster of candidates interviewed and suggests that any candidates wishing to express their personal reactions regarding the election address their views to the "Community Crosstalk" pages of this newspaper.

Children's Librarian At Noe Branch

The Noe Valley Library will be stepping up its children's activities as a result of the addition of a new children's librarian to the branch.

Katharine Gilmartin, who hales from the Bay Area and more recently from England, was welcomed to the library as a fulltime employee Nov. 22.

With the extra help now provided by Gilmartin, the library will begin offering in January more weekly story hours, films, special events, crafts and field trips for children.

For information on these and other library programs, call 285-2788. The branch is located at 451 Jersey St.



SUMMARY OF RESULTS: DISTRICT 5 SUPERVISOR RACE			
	Votes	Percent	
1. Harvey Milk	5,922	30.5	
2. Terence Hallinan	3,472	17.9	
3. Rick Stokes	2,911	15.0	
4. Robert St. Clair	2,796	14.4	
5. Peter J. Fatooh	1,860	9.6	
6. Rita George	725	3.7	
7. Ron Green	666	3.4	
8. Sylvia Weinstein	206	1.0	
9. Shelley Fernandez	168	0.8	
10. Andrew J. Betancourt	136	0.7	
11. Joel A. Ventresca	98	0.5	
12. Marjorie D. Martin	86	0.4	
13. Edward Graham	82	0.4	
14. Leonard J. Mollet	74	0.3	
15. Jim Earnshaw	70	0.3	
16. Jack Schamikles	57	0.2	
17. Robert Hagen	46	0.2	

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Rodger Nichols
Penny Perlmutter
Deborah Phelan
Donald Schultz
David Sobel
Sarah Smith
Burgess Webb

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4166A 24th Street
San Francisco 94114
282-9868 or 648-6140



From:
David Sobel
Penny Perlmutter
Larry Alperstein
Lynne Meyerson

Looking for Mr. Goodgift

Promise Him Anything But Give Him Rat Perfume

You can tell it's Christmas time again. There are the decorations on the streets and the usual unusual Christmas gift stories in the newspapers.

Had enough? Well, have some more. Don't take off those jaded glasses. Feast your eyes on yet another unusual gift story.

One gift you could buy for that "dear friend" who during the course of a good day makes it seem bad, is some "OmiGawd! Rat Perfume". This stuff doesn't cost more than a couple of dollars, and remember, after all, it's not the gift that counts, but the thought. This gem of a gift can be picked up at East of the Sun, 3913 - 24th St.

This store also has the perfect item for your boss. How often did you wish your boss would take a flying leap to you know where? Well, this Christmas give your employer a present to help along his/her journey: a Beanie Copter. You know, those funny little hats with the propeller on top. According to storeowner Eileen McCabe, "The propeller goes around when you walk down the street."

East of the Sun also has critters, fingertraps, badges, buggies, babies, jumpers, clickers, warblers, flickers, gliders, noisemakers, kazoos,

piccolos, puzzles, spiders, old style snappers with "sharp edges," silver-plated plastic bullets, feather squawker balloons and Ughs, all for under a dollar.

If you have a friend in the Disco crowd, give the boogier some Electric Jewelry and a Pet Screw. Both gifts happen to be necklaces, the former being a battery-lighted pendant and the latter, a screw on a leather chain. Both can be had at The Other Side, 3870 - 24th St.

There's a saying down on Castro Street that you can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear, which might be true, but the City Island Dry Goods Company, 564 Castro, has found a way to make a silk pouch out of an old sari. But if this gift is not unusual enough for you turkeys out there, this store has the gift made just for you: a turkey feather fan with a water buffalo horn handle, for only \$3.50.

For you Pet Rock diehards, City Island has pumice at \$2.50 a rock. This store also features turbans, silk boxes and scarves and other exotic paraphernalia from the Far East, Central and South America and the Middle East.

Keeping the Middle East in mind, imagine the surprise on your friends' or parents' faces when they open up your

present on Christmas morning -- or Christmas Eve for you non-traditionalists -- and see an exact duplicate of the Death Mask of King Tut. If nothing else, this mask, a mere \$125, would be a hit on Polk Street next Halloween. If Tut isn't your bag, then maybe a bust of Tut's father, King Aman, \$33, or possibly a scarab box in which to keep your stash. If these seem unusual enough, then Castro Village Jewelry, 531 Castro, will be glad to help you out. But if you want them for Christmas, you'd better hurry since these sundries must be ordered in advance.

Last Christmas, did you give that finicky game lover friend of yours the niftiest backgammon game or one of those Japanese games with the little white and black chips that make chess look easy? If so, Main Line Gifts, 508 Castro, has a game guaranteed to engross the discriminating dice-roller. It's Monopoly, San Francisco Style, and style this game has. If you thought Atlantic City's Boardwalk was a rip-off, try coming up with the \$300,000 needed to buy Nob Hill. This version is also not without its hazards, for if you land on the Bay Area Rapid Transit District square, expect a BART assessment of \$80,000 payable to the public fund. Just like

real life, huh, folks?

Speaking of real life, for you kinky gift givers, Main Line has Bodypaints for Lovers, \$6.95. Here's your chance to re-enact the torso-tintilating scene from "Cousin, Cousine" with no need to worry about suffering the same misfortune that befell the movie's hero and heroine. For easy removal, just jump in the tub and relax as these paints dissolve into a fizzling bubble bath.

Anyone in the mood for a bit of funk, flash and pure dirty fun must take advantage of the wonderful show at Hot Flash of America, 2351 Market St. This shop strives to bring you the largest variety of items that will delight your senses, boggle your mind, make you laugh and make you wonder. Their window displays are always a knock-out, but don't miss a look at the tender Baby J that graces the shop at Christmas.

Here are a few gift ideas (all under \$10) for someone on your list:

- Brown plastic squeaking bulldog pistols, \$1.89. When you are at a loss for words, just pull the trigger on this baby and he says it all.
- Biting alligator on long plastic stick, \$1.25, indispensable for pickpockets.

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Gnomes, Hobbits, Mystics, Spies: A Gift to Make Your Loved One Wise

Browsing through a bookstore to buy a book for someone other than yourself can be a somewhat headachy experience, particularly if you don't have at least a few ideas in mind.

The VOICE, deciding no holiday shopping spree would be complete without a search of the shelves for a special book, asked Larry Alperstein, owner of Books Plus, for some recommendations.

Following are short synopses of seven books he felt would make exciting Christmas gifts.

1. Georgia O'Keeffe by Georgia O'Keeffe, \$14.95

This was the best art book of last year, and now it has come out in paperback. It is

the best art book of this year. The reproductions are fine. I love to look at those sensual flowers. The layers and colors somehow make me want to go down inside of them.

2. The Kitchen Book by Terrence Conran, \$30

A companion to this gentleman's first book, "The House Book," it gives thousands of ideas, illustrations and details about kitchens. If you are ever thinking about building or remodeling a kitchen, this book is invaluable.

3. The Silmarillion by J. R. R. Tolkien, \$10.95

I thought the Hobbit books made up a great adventure. For anyone who has gotten in-

involved in that world, this is an important part of the whole saga.

4. The Random House Encyclopedia, \$69.95

I'm not a special fan of encyclopedias, but this one is good. It is an enormous one-volume book of knowledge, filled throughout with thousands of color illustrations on virtually everything.

5. Gnomes by Poortvliet and Huygen, \$14.95

A truly whimsical book. It has tons of delightful information about these mythical creatures. Or maybe they're real. Who knows? I've never seen a gnome or a unicorn, but I certainly can picture

them in the mind, just as almost everyone I know can.

6. The Second Ring of Power by Carlos Castaneda, \$9.95

The influence Castaneda has had over a whole generation of book readers is truly remarkable. This is not a Don Juan book, by the way, but a struggle between Castaneda and a sorceress.

7. The Public Burning by Robert Coover, \$12.95

A novel about the Rosenbergs. Coover has captured the political and social climate of the '50s. I think this is an important book. Incidentally, Richard Nixon narrates about half of it.

Gastronomical Goodies For Giving

Every holiday has its special food that comes to be associated with that holiday. What would Thanksgiving be without turkey, Easter without ham, Passover without matzoh, or New Year's Eve without champagne? Christmas and Channukah are no exception, with eggnog and potato latkes. But at no other time of year do we have more fun making food to give away. Following are a few recipes that lend themselves well to gifting. But make at least two, for the cook should not be left out either, especially now. Happy holidays.

Snowflakes: Fudgy chocolate cookies that form a snowflake pattern while baking.

2 sqs. unsweetened chocolate	1 cup flour
$\frac{1}{4}$ cup vegetable oil or Crisco	1 teaspoon baking powder
1 cup sugar	$\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt
2 eggs	sifted confectioner's sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla	

Melt chocolate with oil, pour into medium size bowl and beat in sugar. Beat in eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Stir in vanilla. Sift flour, salt and baking powder. Add to chocolate mixture. Refrigerate for three hours or more. Dampen hands and roll dough into walnut size balls. Shake balls in sifted confectioner's sugar. Place on greased cookie sheet, two inches apart. Bake for 10-12 mins. Cool on racks. Yields 2 to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen cookies.

White Pecan Cookies: Buttery nut cookies that stay white.

1 cup pecans, coarsely chopped	1 cup confectioner's sugar
$\frac{1}{2}$ cup butter	1 cup flour
$\frac{1}{2}$ cup and 2 tbs. veg. shortening	2 teaspoons vanilla

Cream butter and shortening together until well mixed. Beat in sugar gradually, then flour. Add vanilla and nuts. Drop by rounded teaspoons on greased cookie sheets. Bake at 325° for 15-20 mins.

Al's Pumpkin Chocolate Cake: Pumpkin makes this cake a beautiful orange color and gives it moistness, but you'll never taste it.

1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups sugar	1 cup chopped walnuts
4 eggs	2 teas. baking powder
2 cups pumpkin (1 16-oz. can)	2 teas. baking soda
$\frac{1}{2}$ cup oil	$\frac{1}{2}$ teas ea., salt & cinnamon
1 cup chocolate chips	2 cups flour

In a large bowl beat sugar and eggs until well mixed. Add pumpkin and blend well. Add oil and blend again. Sift together dry ingredients and add to egg mixture. Fold in chocolate chips and nuts. Pour into a well greased angel food or bundt pan and bake at 350° for approx. one hour. Test for doneness by sliding a knife into center of cake. Let cool thoroughly before removing from pan.

* * *

Cranberry Nut Bread: Fruity and rich.

$\frac{1}{4}$ cup butter	$\frac{1}{2}$ teas. salt
1 cup sugar	1 teas. baking soda
1 cup orange juice	1 cup chopped walnuts
2 eggs	grated rind of one orange
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups flour	2 cups chopped fresh cranberries
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ teas. baking powder	

In a large bowl cream the butter and slowly add the sugar. Stir in orange juice and eggs until well blended. Sift the dry ingredients together. Add the dry ingredients to the creamed mixture and blend. Stir the nuts, berries and rind into the batter. Pour batter into a greased and floured 9 x 5 inch loaf pan. Bake at 350° for one hour or until golden brown. Cool in pan for 15 mins., then remove to rack and cool completely. Wrap tightly in tin foil and store in refrigerator for 24 hours before serving.

By Lynne Meyerson

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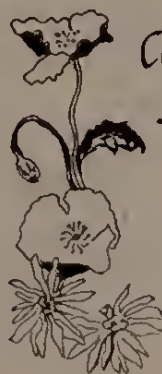


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A BATH SHOP

Shops Extend Hours

The Noe Valley Merchants Association launched "Happy Hour" on 24th Street last September. Ten 24th St. shops will be remaining open until 9 Friday evenings through Christmas, and possibly longer. They will join 25 neighborhood shops which normally stay open late. If you're interested in keeping your shop open, call Larry Alperstein at Books Plus, 285-8448, or Dennis Bone at The Liquidator, 648-4949.



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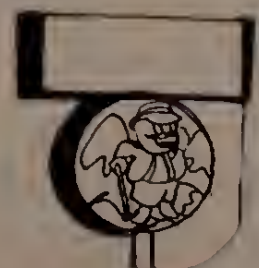
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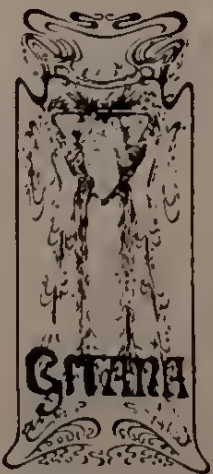
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Noe Valley Theater Group

Around the Spiral Stage

By Deborah Phelan

Murry Paskin never goes anywhere, it seems, without a book tucked under his arm, and the book invariably has something to do with meditation, Jungian psychology or concepts of modern theater. So you're not too incredulous when you discover that he is an actor who is practicing Buddhism -- or is it a Buddhist practicing acting? To Paskin, both are intrinsically related.

A member of Dharmadhatu, a Buddhist organization on Potrero Street, Paskin began a theater group last month in Noe Valley. He plans to work with fairy tales and Buddhist ideas to personify his belief that theater should be concerned with "the totality of human experience" and can be the vehicle through which one becomes aware of "oneself in a much larger context."

Joining the exodus of disillusioned New Yorkers who came West in search of some illusory dream-dappled concept of what life should/could be, Paskin first visited San Francisco in 1970. He brought with him a background in theater which included 10 years



Photo By Roger Burd

Murry Paskin demonstrates a point as actress Tessa Lohwing looks on during a recent workout of the Spiral Theater Group.

of studying method acting, as well as acting experience with the Manhattan-based Living and Open Theaters.

Although planning to stay only one month, he became involved with the Firehouse Theater on California and Polk Streets, and stayed four.

When he returned to San Francisco in 1971, he was turned on by the "spiritual

activity" in the City, and joined a Sufi order. He had decided to give up acting.

"When I came out here, I wanted to get away from everything New York meant," he said. "I wanted to give up theater. My spiritual work at this time was like getting high, being happy. There was a definite separation between my life, which was a neurotic mess, and the spiritual world."

His passion for the theater was rekindled, however, when he enrolled in an improvisational acting class at The Committee, a North Beach theater group.

"I realized that theater was something I could really use because it was my creative expression and I found that I needed creative expression," he said of that period. "Theater became an expression for me of my spiritual work, of spiritual truths."

Continued on Page 9



Photo By Roger Burd

Two actors working with movement and sound to show the "persona" (left) and the "shadow" (right).

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Theater... Continued from Page 8

It was with this ideology that he began his first acting class later that year, but it wasn't until 1973 when he formed an actors' workshop at the Jewish Community Center, that he finally began the serious work of widening the scope of theater by incorporating his religious beliefs into it.

The ensemble remained together three years, setting up headquarters in the Bethany Church and adopting the name "Spiral Theater." They began work on a play idea with Rebecca Singer which eventually developed into their performance of "Crossing the Spiral." The play utilized the images of the rain forest and the desert to symbolize the concepts of birth and death and relied on images and movement rather than verbal dialogue.

Moving on to the study of fairy tales, which, Paskin said, can be used to "explore the unconscious and discover ancient teachings that are applicable to our modern day," they spent almost a year reading fairy tales and mythology, studying Jungian analysis of fairy tales and working with a psychologist who was interested in Jungian psychology.

The result, the company's presentation of Grimm's fairy tale "The Three Feathers," dealt with a society where the masculine element prevailed to such an extent that there was illness due to the lack of the feminine principle.

Paskin's latest Spiral Theater group meets Tuesday evenings at the Bethany Church, Sanchez and Clipper Streets. They employ movements and sounds as theatrical strategies -- sounds work to create movements, which in turn create sounds -- and use them as tools to express inner states. Working from this

perspective, an actor will express to another actor an emotion, such as a plea for help. The other actor will develop a repertoire of movement/sound behavior in response.

In another exercise, one actor will present a particular persona, and another will show what is not being revealed, the shadow.

They also work with the technique of exploring and creating "worlds." The process begins when a particular actor is called upon to act out a particular inner state. One by one the other actors react to this state, either by copying it or contrasting themselves to it, until an entire network of interrelated behaviors has formed a world.

Reflecting on the effect his involvement in Buddhism has had on his work in the theater, Paskin said he feels he has "more freedom now. I'm not so afraid to explore new territory. I have the courage to explore, to play with elements and see where they go.

Buddhism, he said, has taught him to look to his own life for enlightenment, rather than searching for it in something else. "The idea of spirituality is not to get high or get away from the everyday world but to look at things as they really are," he said.

About six actors are presently working with Paskin, but he's looking for more actors with training and experience.


"Most San Francisco actors want a script, lots of lines, a space that looks like a theater," he said. "What I'm doing doesn't have these things to offer. We're involved in the process more than the product. The product, the play, is something which comes out of the process."

MERRY CHRISTMAS



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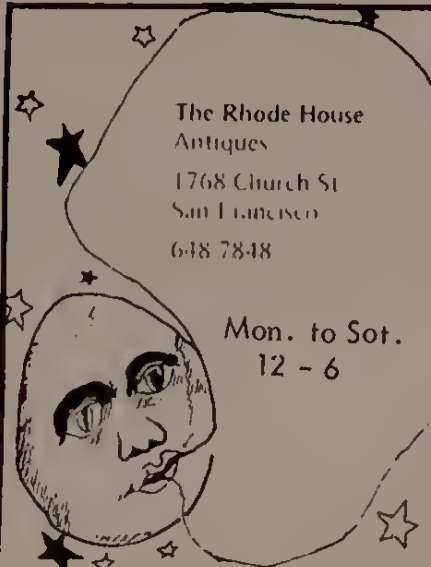


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In Other News Continued from Page 1

visors, which will hold another round of public hearings. Those dates have not been set.

Until the new zoning proposals are finalized, all current zoning laws remain in effect.

Rape Suspect Arrested

A 16-year-old suspect has been arrested and charged with the rape of two women in connection with a series of sexual assaults that left Noe Valley women terrorized and sparked an all-out safety campaign by the Bay Area Women Against Rape.

Inspector Bob Huegle of the S. F. Sexual Assault Detail said the suspect was apprehended after two of the victims identified the juvenile from police mug shots.

He was arrested Oct. 31. Huegle said there had been no similar sexual assaults since the arrest in Noe Valley.

The suspect, whose name was not released because he is a juvenile, has not been charged in two other September incidents in which there

was an attempted rape and another in which the woman had her wallet stolen but was not assaulted.

In each of the four cases, the attacker gained entry into the homes of single women by posing as a newspaper delivery boy or asking for a glass of water. All of the incidents occurred during the daytime.

The attacks so alarmed the women's organization that they put up posters in many restaurants and bars describing the suspect and his method of operation and warned women to use extreme caution in dealing with strangers.

Hope for Housing For The Elderly

Supporters of a proposal to bring more low-income housing for the elderly and handicapped into the Lower Diamond Heights area have won another battle.

The supporters, Citizens for Neighborhood Initiated Senior and Handicapped Housing, are being opposed by the Diamond Heights Community, which wants the last piece of undeveloped land in their area set aside for Open Space.

The City's Open Space Committee last month voted NOT to acquire the land for open space. The vote, in effect, gave the housing supporters a green light to continue developing their plans, according to housing spokesperson Maria Galatti.

Now the supporters must convince both the City's Planning Commission and The Recreation and Park Commission of the feasibility of their proposal.

The contested site is located on the eastern side

of Diamond Heights Boulevard adjacent to the western boundary of Douglass Playground.

Large Pizza Hold the Neon

Are those three bright red and yellow signs outside the new Noe Valley pizza restaurant too large and ostentatious for the area?

The Friends of Noe Valley neighborhood association says yes and has written a letter to the Planning Commission objecting to the signs on aesthetic grounds.

"It's just too big and too bright," complained Henry Cavigli, president of the association.

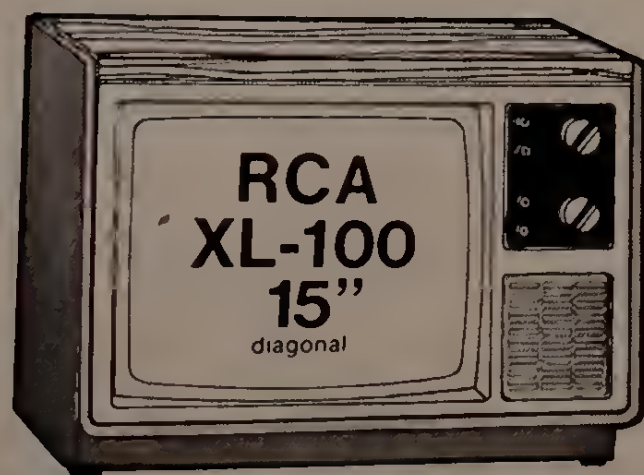
"We are going to fix it. Maybe," said Spiros Claudianus, one of the restaurant's principals.

The diner, formerly Linder's restaurant, is located at 24th and Sanchez Streets.

Merchants Assn. Elects Officers

Del Dawson of The Other Side was elected next year's president of the Noe Valley Merchants Association last month. Other new officeholders are Tom Crane of Color Crane, vice president; Patty Wood of Wooden Heel, secretary; and Paul Garvey of Books Plus, treasurer.

New officers will be installed at a Silver Jubilee Dinner Jan. 11 at Cafe du Nord, 2170 Market St., 7:30 p.m. District 5 Supervisor Harvey Milk will be the guest speaker for the occasion, which marks the 25th anniversary of the group's founding.



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holiday greetings from the little people

Photos by Roger Burd



Kids at Synergy School, 1420 Castro St., were celebrating the advent of the holiday season last month with a roast turkey and all the trimmings. Shown above, putting the final touches on a feast they had carefully planned, are (clockwise) Noah Blakey, 6-1/2, basting the bird; Noah Elkind, 7, stirring yam stew; Erin Gould, 6, chopping pineapple; Neysa King, 7, slicing honey dew melon, and Adam Gould, 9, peeling apples.

Mr. Goodgift... Continued from Page 4

--Red plastic cowboy boot drinking cup, with spur, \$1.29.

--The always appropriate and always welcome one-pound bag of Famous Amos Chocolate Chip Cookies, \$3.50.

--A genuine copper-tone plastic J. F. K. pencil sharpener, 89¢, for the nostalgia buffs on your list.

--Martini drinkers rejoice, oversized rubber olives, \$1.49.

--Painted cast-iron Santa banks, mechanical and cute, \$3.25.

--Kitchen items, including mugs, potholders and woven

wooden spoon holders, from \$2.50.

If you get the notion -- heaven forbid -- to venture downtown in search of that sometimes elusive "perfect gift," you might want to check out Thousand Flowers, 311 Grant (between Sutter and Bush).

Surveying this small shop you can come across exotic hobbles from Persia, Turkey, China, Chile or Africa. There are Burmese painted dolls, or brightly colored plastic Chinese bicycles, good for tree ornaments or transportation for your favorite insect. All under \$5.

Speaking of insects, if the idea of surgically mutilating any of your own cockroaches and using their dismembered parts as presents doesn't appeal to you hut vicarious revenge against the night stalkers does, for less than \$5 you can purchase Chinese figures made from their appendages. The pests, garbed in pussywillow tunics, are ensconced in grass and paper cages so the recipient of your gift need not worry lest they somehow miraculously resurrect to enlist in the army of compatriots under his sink.

Happy Shopping.

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Calendar

- Dec. 8 Friends of Noe Valley Steering Committee meeting, Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. , 8 p. m.
- Dec. 8 "The Empowerment of Women," a talk by Janet Stone, co-author of "SPEAKING UP: A Book for Every Woman Who Talks," Old Wives Tales, 532 Valencia St. , 7:30 p. m. Free. Child care provided: Call 552-1015.
- Dec. 11 Opening party for Thommy Davis. Display of his bone engraved scrimshaw and drawings, Books Plus, 3910 - 24th St. , 11 a. m. to 7 p. m.
- Dec. 12 "Do-It-Yourself Divorce" presented by Susan McCunc and Kristin White, Community Law Program 3911 - 24th St. , 6 to 8 p. m. \$20 fee (includes all forms). Call 282-0858.
- Dec. 13 Friends of Noe Valley Planning Committee meeting, Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. , 7:30 p. m.
- Dec. 15, 17 An informal rap with Merlin Stone, author of "When God Was a Woman," Old Wives Tales, 532 Valencia St. Dec. 15: 7:30 p. m. Dec. 17: 3 p. m.
- Dec. 16 - "Hagar's Children," S. F. Repertory Theatre, 4147 - 19th St. Thursdays through Sundays at 8 p. m. For reservations, call 863-4859.
- Dec. 21 Christmas caroling in Noe Valley. Meet at N. V. Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. . 7:30 p. m.
- Dec. 22 Joan Lindow reads original poetry, Old Wives Tales, 532 Valencia St. , 7:30 p. m. Free.
- Jan. 9 Introduction to Mime and Masks with Bill Reynoso, N. V. Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. , 7 to 10 p. m.
- Jan. 11 Silver Jubilee Dinner and installation of new officers, Noe Valley Merchants Association, Cafe du Nord, 2170 Market St. , 7:30 p. m.
- Jan. 14 Friends of Noe Valley Season Party, N. V. Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. Call Alix, 282-1071, for details.

At Upper Noe Recreation Center, Day & Sanchez, 647-2474:

- Dec. 1-31 Sign up for boys' basketball to begin in January.
- Dec. 7 Adult league Christmas Basketball Tournament. Dec. 7: 7 p. m. Dec. 13,14,15,20: 7 p. m. and 8:15 p. m. Dec. 21: Championship, 8:15 p. m.
- Thursdays Women's Free Play (basketball, volleyball, badminton), 6:30 to 9:30 p. m.

At Variations On and On, 4399 - 25th St. , 285-9626:

Portrait of Androgyny: Pastel paintings by Catherine Wallis and photo silkscreen prints by Ed Sakir. Sunday, Tuesday and Friday evenings, 8 to 11 p. m. , and by appt. thru Dec. 23.

★★★★★★★★★★

Noe Valley Cinema

(Films are shown Saturdays at 8 p. m. at James Lick Auditorium, 25th and Noe. \$1 for members, \$1.50 gen. admission.)

- Dec. 3 "Nothing But a Man," directed by Robert Young; "The Blues" (short) by Samuel Charters.
- Dec. 10 "College" with Buster Keaton and two Charlie Chaplin shorts, "Between Showers" and "The Cure."
- Dec. 17 An Evening of Early Animation: 13 cartoons including "Betty Boop and Snow White," Walt Disney's "Mickey's Service Station," and Daffy Duck in "Duck Amok."
- Dec. 24, 31 There will be no showings on these dates. The Noe Valley Cinema will take a break until Jan. 7.

Noe Valley Library

451 Jersey St.

- Nov. 15 - Exhibit of recent works in textiles by Cecily Geldmacher
- Dec. 7 "Underwater in Yucatan," slide show with David Russel, 7:30 p. m.
- Dec. 10 Community Garden Work Day, 9 a. m. to 2 p. m. Potluck lunch.
- Dec. 17 A seasonal celebration with Gret and Jere Canote performing traditional English and American songs. Films: "A Child's Christmas in Wales" and "Snow". 2 p. m.
- Dec. 20 Ornament-making and tree decorating for children, 2:30 p. m.
- Tuesdays Preschool Story Hour, 10:30 a. m. and 1:30 p. m. (Afternoon story hour will begin in January.)

FREE VICTORIAN SLIDE SHOW

"San Francisco's Victorian Revival" is the topic of a free slide show Wednesday, Dec. 14, 7:30 p. m. at the Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. The lecture will cover the history of the Victorian era and the working methods of the hundreds of architects and builders whose furiously embellished legacy still graces many City neighborhoods. The slide show will be given by Noe Valley resident Judith Waldhorn, instructor in Victorian architecture at S. F. Community College and co-author of "A Gift to the Street."



Noe Valley Ministry

1021 Sanchez St.
282-2317

Sunday Morning Advent Celebrations leading up to Christmas, Sundays, 10 a. m.

Christmas Eve Celebration, Saturday, Dec. 24, 6 p. m. Singles, families, all ages invited.

Christmas Caroling in Noe Valley, Wednesday, Dec. 21, 7:30 p. m. , beginning at 1021 Sanchez St. and ending with mulled wine and hot cider. Plan to join us.

Soup Lunch with Special Guests, Tuesdays at 12:45 p. m.

Special Guests:

- Dec. 6 Margaret Wyatt, librarian, Noe Valley Library
- Dec. 13 Del Dawson, president-elect, Noe Valley Merchants Association
- Dec. 20 Harvey Milk, supervisor-elect, District 5
- Dec. 27 Special Christmas music and singing
- Jan. 3 Pat Shalter, Friendly Visiting Program, S. F. Department of Social Services
- Jan. 10 Paul Garvey, co-owner, Books Plus
- Jan. 17 Henry Cavigli, co-president, Friends of Noe Valley, on new City zoning proposals
- Jan. 24 Dorie Tuttle, painter
- Jan. 31 Tom Mattoff, senior planner, S. F. Muni
- Singing, Wednesdays, 7:30 to 8:30 p. m.
- Yoga Exercise, Tuesdays, 11:45 a. m.
- Modern Dance, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6 p. m.
- Shape-Up for Women, Wednesdays, 6 p. m.
- Preschool Dance, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:30 p. m.
- Darbuka Drum Class, Thursdays, 6 p. m.
- Single Parent Resource Center Rap Sessions, Mondays, 7:30 p. m.
- Noe Valley Co-op Nursery School, mornings, Monday through Friday